

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 1605 – HB 1796

March 6, 2016

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the current text of any section that would be deleted or altered by a proposed Constitutional amendment be printed in full on the ballot when the question of a state constitutional amendment is submitted to the vote of the people pursuant to article XI of the Tennessee Constitution.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

**Increase Local Expenditures –
Exceeds \$25,000/FY18-19 and Every Four Years Thereafter***

Assumptions:

- The costs for elections that pose a constitutional question are funded by local governments.
- The Department of State (SOS) indicates an average of two constitutional amendments per ballot since the 1998 election year.
- Requiring the current text of any section of the constitution that would be deleted or altered by the proposed amendment to be printed in full on the ballot will increase printing costs by an unknown amount. The increase local government expenditures is reasonably estimated to exceed \$25,000 statewide based on changes that would have been required, had the provisions of this bill been in effect, for the November 2014 elections in counties using optical scan voting machines and also absentee ballots.
- Any additional costs would only be incurred in fiscal years coinciding with gubernatorial elections. As a result, the first fiscal year impacted will be FY18-19.

*Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: *no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

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CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Krista M. Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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